

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0008] with the following amended paragraph:

[0008] As an alternative to conventional ball bearing spindle systems, researchers have concentrated much of their efforts on developing a hydrodynamic bearing. In these types of systems, lubricating fluid – either gas or liquid – functions as the actual bearing surface between a stationary base or housing in the rotating spindle or rotating hub of the motor. For example, liquid lubricants comprising oil, more complex ferro-magnetic fluids or even air have been utilized in hydrodynamic bearing systems. The reason for the popularity of the use of air is the importance of avoiding the outgassing of contaminants into the sealed area of the head/disc housing. However, air does not provide the lubricating qualities of oil. The relative high viscosity of oil allows for larger bearing gaps and therefore ~~grater~~ greater tolerances to achieve similar dynamic performance.

Please replace paragraph [0020] with the following amended paragraph:

[0020] These and other objectives of the present invention are ~~providing~~ provided by assembling the shaft and thrust plate to be used in the fluid dynamic bearing assembly, and at least partially inserting the combined shaft and thrust plate into a sleeve which is adapted to support a hub which in turn may support one or more disks for rotation in a disc drive or similar environment. A counterplate cup of a generally U shaped or cup shaped design including a base which is substantially parallel to a top surface of the thrust plate, and sides of a diameter which is slightly greater than the diameter of the thrust plate and which are parallel to the thrust plate is provided, filled with oil, and having its open end facing the thrust plate.

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following amended paragraph:

[0022] The method and apparatus described summarily above and in detail below may be used either with a fluid dynamic bearing or a motor incorporating such a bearing, and is useful with bearings and motors of several designs. The method and apparatus are explained below with reference to a single motor model with which it is known to be useful. However, the scope of the present invention is not limited to its ~~useablization~~ utilization with the single bearing design or motor model.

Please replace paragraph [0032] with the following amended paragraph:

[0032] A support plate 30 is located below the shoulder and a nut 34 located below the counterplate 30 which holds the primary structural elements of the motor together and holds the motor into base. The rotating sleeve also supports, below the hub, a magnet 40 which interacts with a stator 42 to cause rotation of the sleeve and the hub 12 that it supports.